



2001

Legislative Agenda:

We will be supporting and working to adopt the following measures during the upcoming legislative session:

LOWER THE TAX BURDEN FOR THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

- Phase out the state property tax levy to help homeowners and renters.
- Provide a sales-tax holiday on school clothes purchases for families prior to each new school year.
- Create tax incentives that encourage employers to provide child care for their employees.
- Require any future tax increase imposed by government be approved by voters at the next general election to protect all taxpayers.

LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND

- Empower parents whose children are in failing or violent schools with state-funded choices.
- Provide local educators more flexibility to help children succeed by giving principals greater authority in hiring and firing school personnel and allowing professionals with significant experience in specific fields such as math, science or a foreign language to become certified to teach.
- Continue reforming schools by establishing higher standards, accountability and compensation-based upon performance.

REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND IMPROVE SAFETY

- Prioritize transportation by dedicating existing transportation-related sales tax revenue to new road projects.
- Establish a complete and balanced transportation system that meets the needs of all citizens.

PROTECT NEIGHBORHOODS AND CHILDREN

- Make methamphetamine production and distribution a "strike" and increase the jail time for those who expose the drug to children.
- Lengthen the jail time for sex offenders rather than simply notifying citizens after offenders are released into their neighborhoods.

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

- Petition the President and Congress to reform Medicare and include prescription drug coverage for low-income seniors.
- In the meantime, provide state assistance to low-income seniors from the tobacco settlement fund.
- Improve the quality of care in long-term health care settings by providing competitive and attractive wages to care providers.

PRESERVE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

- Maintain high environmental standards to protect clean air and water and promote salmon recovery through effective, science-based solutions at the local level.
- Provide a sales-tax exemption for the development of new power resources to ensure an adequate, clean and affordable supply of energy for future generations.
- Protect state parks from being closed.

MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE CITIZEN-CENTERED AND ACCOUNTABLE

- Require rules adopted by state agencies that invoke the force of law be approved by the Legislature prior to permanent implementation.
- Increase technical assistance to help citizens understand and abide by government regulations.



Cut along this line

Tell us what's important to you

Please rank the following issues on a scale of one to five, with one being very important and five being not important to you. If you'd like more information on the progress of issues that are important to you, please provide an address or e-mail address, and we'll be glad to keep you informed.

_____ Taxes and spending	_____ Traffic congestion and safety	_____ Preventing crime/Public safety
_____ Education	_____ Environment	_____ Controlling energy costs
_____ Prescription drug costs	_____ Limiting state regulations	_____ Other _____

Comments _____

☐ Please send me more information on the issues that I've indicated are more important to me:

Name _____
Address _____
E-mail _____



Dear Friends,

For many of you, we’re sure the end of the campaign season represents a welcome reprieve. However, for us it marks only the beginning as we intend to work hard over the next two years to meet our commitments to you by adopting needed reforms and improvements to our state government.

As of this writing, it appears control of the House of Representatives will be equally divided once again between 49 Republicans and 49 Democrats. This will require a truly bipartisan approach as we work to address issues important to Washington citizens. In the upcoming session, we will be supporting legislation to provide meaningful property tax relief, improve our transportation infrastructure, preserve our environment while we protect working families, and improve our schools and government in general.

On the reverse side you’ll find more details on our legislative agenda for 2001. We also would like to get your opinions on the issues that are most important to you. Please take the time to complete the attached survey card and return it to us. Together, we can make meaningful improvements in the way government serves its citizens.

Thank you again for the honor of representing you.

Sincerely,

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